# OVERSEAS SECURITY ADVISORY COUNCIL



# **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

In January, OSAC's Executive Office continued to work with the International Security Management Association (ISMA) on the joint ISMA/OSAC event scheduled for March 14-16, in Miami, Florida. Five Regional Security Officers from posts in the Western Hemisphere are expected to participate. For more information, please see the Special Events section of this report.

OSAC's Executive Director, Daniel Weber, and the Chief of Research and Information Support Center, attended a meeting with the Office of the Director of National Intelligence (ODNI) to explore how to support the government's efforts to outreach to the private sector.

Finally, OSAC's Executive Office is preparing to participate in the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research (UNICRI) winter session meeting in Lisbon, Portugal.

In January, OSAC analysts conducted 305 consultations. This month, the Western Hemisphere was the most popular region for constituents, with Haiti as the country attracting the most interest. For complete information on constituent interaction, please view the final section of this report.

# OSAC Major Events Coverage: 2010 Olympic Winter Games, Vancouver



While the 2009 Olympic Winter Games in Vancouver don't begin until February 12, 2010, OSAC's coverage of the Games will soon be starting! Contact the Major Events team by emailing Laura Simmons (simmonslk@state.gov) or Brent Heminger (hemingerbg@state.gov) to be included on the Olympics distribution list. Once added, you will receive periodic security updates, threat assessments, and event announcements from OSAC's Olympics team. You can also log onto OSAC's Olympics

portal by visiting

https://www.osac.gov/majorEvents/majorEvent.cfm?contentCatTypeID=1006.

In addition to the online and emailed material, three OSAC analysts will deploy to Vancouver in phases beginning this month to better assist the U.S. private sector with all security issues. Coverage will also be provided from OSAC's headquarters office, to ensure complete support to constituents throughout the Games.

#### **OSAC's NEW WEBSITE**

In 2010, OSAC will be unveiling a new website to replace the current OSAC.gov. This "next generation" website will provide better constituent outreach and interaction, allowing for greater customization and greater collaborative tools for both constituents and OSAC analysts. OSAC has contracted with TrustedBase, an IT and security service provider with expertise in SharePoint development. OSAC and TrustedBase have identified three essential components for the new website: ease of use, speed, and an improved capability for communication and collaboration among OSAC's constituency and analysts. An enhanced search engine, mobile computing support, and geospatial satellite mapping of global activities are just some of the myriad new features that can be utilized on the website.

Constituents can be confident that no information will be lost in the transition to this new website, and explicit instructions will be disseminated so that every OSAC member will know how to employ the features of the new website.

Each month, OSAC will use this space in the Monthly Report to update the constituency on the website development progress and to provide screen shots of how the new website will look, so that users can grow accustomed to the look and feel of the website before it is officially unveiled. This information will also be emailed to the constituency. The initial release of the new website is expected to take place in mid-late summer 2010, with additional phases to be released through the fall of 2011.

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Welcome to OSACE Please login or register

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July 31, 2009 - Lorem in

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Here's a sneak peak of the new OSAC homepage!

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CONSULAR AFFAIRS

CONSULAR AFFAIRS

August 31, 2009

# **SPECIAL EVENTS - UPCOMING**

Corporate Espionage and Global Security: Protecting Your Business Assets (February 25) - Chicago, IL



On February 25, OSAC and the Department of Commerce will hold a seminar on corporate espionage in Chicago, IL. Speakers from the private and public sector will discuss corporate espionage trends and tactics, as well as best practices and due diligence. For more information on this event, please see the event announcement on OSAC's website.

# ISMA/OSAC Latin America Security Conference (March 14-16) - Miami, FL

On March 14-16, the International Security Management Association (ISMA) and OSAC will hold a Latin America Security Conference at the Intercontinental Hotel in Miami, FL. The two day event will include speakers from both the private and public sector, discussing topics such as kidnap and response trends, corruption and organized crime in Latin America, and supply chain security. Regional Security Officers from



Brazil, Colombia, Honduras, Mexico, and Venezuela will also present on country-specific security trends. For more information on this event, please see the <u>event announcement</u> on OSAC's website.

# Incident Reporting

Don't forget to alert OSAC to any incidents your organization faced in January!

If you have any questions on incident reporting, please contact OSAC's <u>Senior Coordinator for Threat Assessment</u>. If you have any incidents you'd like to report, please use <u>this link</u> to access the Incident Reporting Tool (you must be logged into OSAC.gov). Feel free to click on the Incident Reporting Tool User's Guide for more information.

#### **OSAC Analytic Reports**

Haiti Earthquake

National Disaster: 7.0 Earthquake Hits Haiti (Jan 13)

<u>Updated Haiti Earthquake Report (Jan 14)</u>
<u>Haiti & Dominican Republic: Logistics and Security Overview (Jan 15)</u>
<u>Haiti Earthquake Private Sector Survey Results (Jan 17)</u>
Jan 20 Aftershock and Security Logistics for Haiti (Jan 20)

<u>Ukraine 2010 Elections: Why A Low Profile in Kyiv During the Elections is Advisable</u>

OSAC 2010 World Economic Forum Security Assessment

Ethiopia: NGO & Aid Restriction Issues

Malaysia Church Arson

# **OSAC JANUARY REPORTS**

The following list shows OSAC.gov's ten most-viewed OSAC reports for January.

# OSAC.GOV: JANUARY'S MOST-VIEWED REPORTS

- 1. OSAC Monthly Report: December (1300+ hits)
- 2. Warden Message: Peru Flash Flooding (1000+)
- 3. Travel Alert: India (1000+)
- 4. Travel Alert: Haiti (850+)
- 5. Warden Message: Hong Kong Indiscriminate Corrosive Fluid Attacks (850+)
- 6. Warden Message: Port au Prince (Haiti) Earthquake (850+)
- 7. Travel Warning: Haiti (800+)
- 8. Warden Message: Kenya Westerner Kidnapping Threat in Dadaab Refugee Camp (750+)
- 9. Warden Message: Sudan Cautions Threat Against Air Uganda (750+)
- 10. Warden Message: Adana (Turkey) Anti-American Concert (750+)

# **OSAC TRAVEL**

In January, two OSAC analysts visited four posts in South/Central Asia and the Western Hemisphere. Here is a brief overview of the travel:

#### South/Central Asia

• Kabul: Approximately 140 members of the private sector, largely NGOs and security contractors, attended the launch of this council. The U.S. Ambassador for Afghanistan provided opening remarks and the council's steering committee confirmed its commitment to hosting future OSAC events in 2010.

# Western Hemisphere

 Quito: The U.S. Ambassador to Ecuador devoted time to presenting during this council meeting; additional briefings were provided on security trends in Latin America and hotel security



- Guayaquil: This meeting brought together a variety of industries to discuss security concerns in Ecuador, including the increase in violent crime and political instability in the country
- Georgetown: This newly-established council discussed criminal trends in the country, crisis management, and border security



Four OSAC regional coordinators plan to visit five posts in East Asia/Pacific, Africa, and Europe over the next 60 days.

- BANGKOK: Country Council Re-launch, February 11
- JOHANNESBURG: Country Council World Cup Conference, March 29-30
- LONDON: Country Council Meeting, March 26
- PHNOM PENH: Country Council Meeting, February 16
- SEOUL: Country Council Meeting, February 19

OSAC encourages all private sector representatives to make every effort to attend these meetings personally, or at the very least to ensure a staff member represents your organization at each meeting. More information for each of the meetings and the respective councils can be found on the <a href="OSAC website">OSAC website</a>, as well as at the individual hyperlinks in each listing.

# **COUNTRY COUNCIL FOCUS: Prague**



On January 22, the Prague Country Council held its quarterly meeting. Czech Minister of Interior Martin Pecina was the guest speaker for the event. Minister Pecina spoke for roughly one and a half hours on topics including the Czech perspective on terrorism and domestic anti-corruption efforts. He also entertained questions from the attendees. This was a rare opportunity for local OSAC members to meet with a cabinet-level official.

Senior Embassy staff also recognized the uniqueness of the event. The Consul General, Legal Attache, Political Economic Counselor, and Foreign Commercial Service Counselor joined the RSO in welcoming Minister Pecina. The RSO served as the emcee and translation services were available to the Minister, although his English proved quite effective. The Prague Marriott was kind enough to host the meeting. By all accounts, the event was deemed successful, not only from a private sector perspective, but also due to the continued dialogue it fostered between the Ministry of Interior and U.S. Embassy Prague. The Minister seemed

similarly pleased and even kindly mentioned the possibility of attending another meeting in the future. RSO Prague and Czech Country Council members continue to strive to develop the local organization. The efforts of members resulted in the Minister's attendance and the subsequent success of the event. Minister Pecina is pictured 2<sup>nd</sup> from the left (seated left to right: Michal Moroz, Advisor to Minister; Interior Minister Martin Pecina; Translator David Fuchs; RSO Richard Wade).



If you are interested in participating in the Prague Country Council, please contact OSAC's Regional Coordinator for Eastern Europe.

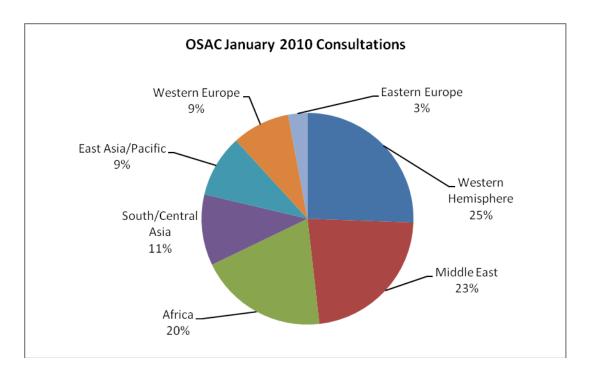
# **Country Council Requests for Action**

- ✓ Country Councils in Lagos (Nigeria), Douala, Yaounde (Cameroon), and Lome (Togo) would like to increase aid organization and faith-based group membership. If interested, please contact OSAC's <u>Regional Coordinator for</u> <u>West & Central Africa</u>.
- ☑ The Vancouver (Canada) Country Council is looking for private sector leadership. If interested, please contact OSAC's Regional Coordinator for Central and North America.
- Constituents with interests in Ouagadougou (Burkina Faso) are hoping to form a Country Council. If interested, please contact OSAC's <u>Regional</u> <u>Coordinator for West & Central Africa</u>.
- Constituents interested in joining the newly formed Sudan Country Councils are asked to contact OSAC's <u>Regional Coordinator for West & Central</u> Africa.

- ☑ Constituents interested in joining the newly formed Tunis (Tunisia) Country Council are asked to contact OSAC's Regional Coordinator for North Africa/Levant.
- ☑ Constituents interested in joining the Baghdad Country Council are asked to contact OSAC's Regional Coordinator for the GCC, Iraq and Iran.
- RSO Damascus is looking for more private sector involvement in the newly formed Damascus Country Council. If interested, please contact OSAC's Regional Coordinator for North Africa & the Levant.
- ☑ The Nairobi (Kenya) Country Council is looking for private sector leadership. If interested, please contact OSAC's Regional Coordinator for East & Southern Africa.
- ☑ The Doha (Qatar) Country Council is looking to identify potential meeting spaces for future Country Council events. If you are interested in hosting an event, please contact OSAC's Regional Coordinator for the GCC, Iraq and Iran.
- ☑ The La Paz and Santa Cruz (Bolivia) Country Councils are looking for Steering Committee members. If interested in participating, please contact OSAC's Regional Coordinator for South America.
- ☑ The Guayaquil (Ecuador) Country Council is looking for members. If interested in participating, please contact OSAC's Regional Coordinator for South America.
- ☑ The Georgetown (Guyana) Country Council is looking for members. If interested in joining, please contact OSAC's Regional Coordinator for South America.
- ☑ The Luxembourg Country Council is looking for private sector leadership to help establish the Country Council. If interested, please contact OSAC's Regional Coordinator for Western Europe.
- Constituents with interests in Mbabane (Swaziland) are hoping to form a Country Council. If interested, please contact OSAC's <u>Regional Coordinator</u> <u>for Sub-Saharan Africa</u>.
- Constituents interested in joining the newly formed Addis Ababa (Ethiopia) Country Council are asked to contact OSAC's Regional Coordinator for Sub-Saharan Africa.
- Private sector personnel in Antananarivo (Madagascar) are hoping to form a Country Council. If interested, please contact OSAC's <u>Regional Coordinator</u> for Sub-Saharan Africa.
- Constituents with interests in Windhoek (Namibia) are hoping to form a Country Council. If interested, please contact OSAC's Regional Coordinator for Sub-Saharan Africa.
- Constituents interested in joining the newly formed Kathmandu (Nepal) Country Council are asked to contact OSAC's Regional Coordinator for South/Central Asia.

# **CONSTITUENT INTERACTION**

Below is a regional overview of OSAC's constituent interaction for the month of January, with descriptive breakdowns of the countries garnering the most constituent interest.



# **Americas**

OSAC provided 78 constituent consultations.

HAITI: As a result of the devastating earthquake on January 12, OSAC provided numerous consultations concerning Haiti. Many constituents called concerning evacuations and aid donations. Near the end of the month, constituents requested information on private security providers and firearms regulations within Haiti.

# Middle East & North Africa

OSAC provided 69 constituent consultations.

YEMEN: The closure of the U.S. and several other Western embassies early in January sparked several phone calls from concerned constituents. The failed December 25<sup>th</sup> attempt to bring down a Detroit-bound airliner by an affiliate of al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP), along with the flare-up of the conflict between the Houti rebels and Saudi forces in the northern Sana'a governorate, also caused constituents to express an increased interest in Yemen. As Yemeni forces continue with their attempts to combat AQAP, the Houti rebels, and a separatist movement in the south, Yemen will likely remain a volatile nation that will continue to be on the minds of constituents for the foreseeable future.

# **Sub-Saharan Africa**

OSAC provided 60 constituent consultations.

NIGERIA: In January, constituents were mainly interested in security and logistical information for travel to Nigeria's major cities. Violent crime remains a primary security concern, particularly in Lagos where carjackings, home invasions, and armed robberies are acute. Some constituents deferred travel to parts of northern Nigeria following recent violence in Jos, Plateau State. Rioting in many parts of city and several surrounding areas led to significant casualties and property destruction.

# **South & Central Asia**

OSAC provided 33 constituent consultations.

 INDIA: Constituents expressed concern over travel safety and the threat of terrorist attacks in India. The reissuance of India's Travel Warning language prompted many constituents to question whether the warning was based on a new threat or the continuation of the threat from Lashkar-e-Tayyiba against major Indian cities. While the LeT is likely plotting spectacular attacks against major Indian cities that could impact western businesses, OSAC has no further information regarding the timing, location, or methods of the attack.

# **East Asia & the Pacific**

OSAC provided 29 constituent consultations.

• <u>CHINA</u>: Intellectual property rights infringement remains a constant concern for constituents; however, China remains a popular destination for corporate travel.

# **Western Europe**

OSAC provided 27 constituent consultations.

 <u>SWITZERLAND</u>: The World Economic Forum (WEF) took place from January 27-31 and numerous OSAC constituents attended the annual event. Historically, global events like the WEF attract anti-establishment groups and are a potential terrorist target. Given the security concerns of the WEF, OSAC released the <u>2010 World Economic Forum Security</u> <u>Assessment</u>. Additionally, OSAC created an email distribution list, which became a conduit of information sharing among the U.S. private sector, RSO Bern, and WEF security officials.

# **Eastern Europe**

OSAC provided 9 constituent consultations.

• RUSSIA: Two major issues for constituents operating in Russia are cyber crime and the security situation in the Caucuses. Travel to the Caucuses should be limited due to the ongoing terrorist activities throughout the area.